



To: Joint Committee on Capital Construction
From: Jack Giffen, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Council
Date: April 23, 2019
Subject: House Bill 5030

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey and members of the Joint Subcommittee on Capitol Construction:

My name is Jack Giffen, I am a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Council and urge your support of House Bill 5030.

HB 5030 creates funding within the ODAS Economic Development Distributions Fund to repair and reopen the Willamette Falls navigation canal and locks. The locks are an important part of Oregon's history and a key part of Willamette Falls, one of the most sacred and vital sites for Native Americans in the United States. In 2012 the Willamette Falls Locks were declared one of the most threatened National Treasures by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Reopening Willamette Falls navigation canal and locks will help to support cultural enrichments but also opportunities for economic development that benefits all of Oregon's communities.

Oregon is truly unique when it comes to the relationship between the state and the tribes. Together, we have done amazing things, from Governor Atiyeh and the creation of the Commission on Indian Services, to Governor Kitzhaber's Executive Order 96-30, and then passage of SB 770, which put into statute the government-to-government relationship. We should all be proud as Oregonians of the work done to solidify a strong bond between the state and the tribes. This is yet another example of the collaboration that continues to make Oregon a leader in State tribal relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today, we encourage support for House Bill 5030.